posed to be extended upto Ichchapuram the first station in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Railway Recruitment Board in Vishakhapatnam

792. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to have a separate Railway Recruitment Board for Vishakhapatnam in South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in Waste Lands

793. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total Statewise area of wasteland in the country;

(b) whether wasteland is increasing at a faster rate;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for its development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). A country-wise survey on State by State basis of the extent of wastelands and the rate at which these are increasing or decreasing has not been carried out. However, according to one estimate, State-wise area of wastelands is given in the attached statement.

(d) The Wastelands Development Programme, initiated in 1985, aims at checking land degradation, putting wastelands to sustainable use, increasing bio-mass availability, especially fuelwood and fodder and restoring the ecological balance.

STATEMENT

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 793 due for answer on 26.11.91

Estimates of Wastelands in India

(Area in Lakh Hectares)

States/UT	*Total*
Andhra Pradesh	114.16
Assam	17.30

(Area in Lakh Hectares)

States/UT	*Total*
Bihar	54.58
Gujarat	78.36
Haryana	24.78
Himachal Pradesh	19.58
Jammu and Kashmir	15.65
Karnataka	91.65
Kerala	12.79
Madhya Pradesh	201.42
Maharashtra	114.01
Manipur	14.38
Meghalaya	19.18
Nagaland	13.86
Orissa	63.84
Punjab	12.30
Rajasthan	199.34
Sikkim	2.81
Tamil Nadu	44.01
Tripura	9.73
Uttar Pradesh	80.61
West Bengal	25.36
UTs	36.04
Total	1295.74

N.B. The above estimate is not based on a country-wise survey of all wastelands in the country.

Passengar Facilities at Chandigarh Station

794. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facilities provided at Chanidgarh Station have been rendered inadequate due to the increase in passenger traffic and improvement in rail services; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve these facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Raw Industrial Effluents in Chandigarh

795. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chandigarh Union Territory Administration disposes of raw industrial effluents on adjoining lands;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to divert effluents through the sewerage treatment plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The industrial effluents are being discharged into the sewage system carrying domestic sewage. Only a part of the wastewater is treated at the primary level, the rest is disposed of on land and a small quantity is used for irrigation.

(c) A sewerage treatment plant has been constructed to treat the entire effluent generated and the Government has advised the industries not to dispose of their effluents on land.

Super Fast Train Between Chandigarh and Amritsar

796. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the heavy rush of passengers between Chandigarh and Amritsar; and

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to introduce a super fast train between these two stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). The present level of traffic between Chandigarh and Amritsar is being adequately catered to by 4 slip coaches running between Amritsar and Kalka via Ambala Cantt. and Chandigarh by 8101/8102 Tata-Hatia-Amritsar Express and 4587/4588 Chandigarh Express. As such, there is no proposal at present to introduce any super fast train between these stations.

Adult Education in Chandigarh

797. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated to Chandigarh for adult education during each of the last three years; and

(b) the number of persons made fully literate during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). A sum of Rs. 29.72